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U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER NO. 10/568,381	FIRST NAMED APPLICANT Walter <u>Niederstaetter</u> <u>Niederstaetter</u>	ATTY. DOCKET NO. 03071K
INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO. PCT/EP04/09396		
I.A. FILING DATE 08/23/2004		PRIORITY DATE 08/27/2003

38263
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 425-C SOUTH SHARON AMITY ROAD
 CHARLOTTE, NC 28211-2841

CONFIRMATION NO. 1036

371 ACCEPTANCE LETTER



OC00000020108204

Date Mailed: 08/22/2006

NOTICE OF ACCEPTANCE OF APPLICATION UNDER 35 U.S.C 371 AND 37 CFR 1.495

The applicant is hereby advised that the United States Patent and Trademark Office in its capacity as a Designated / Elected Office (37 CFR 1.495), has determined that the above identified international application has met the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 371, and is ACCEPTED for national patentability examination in the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

The United States Application Number assigned to the application is shown above and the relevant dates are:

<u>02/14/2006</u>	<u>02/14/2006</u>
DATE OF RECEIPT OF 35 U.S.C. 371(c)(1), (c)(2) and (c)(4) REQUIREMENTS	DATE OF COMPLETION OF ALL 35 U.S.C. 371 REQUIREMENTS

A Filing Receipt (PTO-103X) will be issued for the present application in due course. **THE DATE APPEARING ON THE FILING RECEIPT AS THE " FILING DATE" IS THE DATE ON WHICH THE LAST OF THE 35 U.S.C. 371 (c)(1), (c)(2) and (c)(4) REQUIREMENTS HAS BEEN RECEIVED IN THE OFFICE. THIS DATE IS SHOWN ABOVE.** The filing date of the above identified application is the international filing date of the international application (Article 11(3) and 35 U.S.C. 363). Once the Filing Receipt has been received, send all correspondence to the Group Art Unit designated thereon.

The following items have been received:

- Copy of the International Application filed on 02/14/2006
- Copy of the International Search Report filed on 02/14/2006
- Preliminary Amendments filed on 02/14/2006
- Information Disclosure Statements filed on 02/14/2006
- Oath or Declaration filed on 02/14/2006
- Request for Immediate Examination filed on 02/14/2006
- U.S. Basic National Fees filed on 02/14/2006
- Priority Documents filed on 02/14/2006
- Power of Attorney filed on 02/14/2006
- Specification filed on 02/14/2006
- Claims filed on 02/14/2006

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- Abstracts filed on 02/14/2006

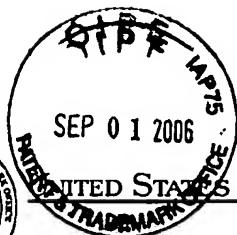
Applicant is reminded that any communications to the United States Patent and Trademark Office must be mailed to the address given in the heading and include the U.S. application no. shown above (37 CFR 1.5)

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FORM PCT/DO/EO/903 (371 Acceptance Notice)



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APPL NO.	FILING OR 371 (c) DATE	ART UNIT	FIL FEE REC'D	ATTY. DOCKET NO	DRAWINGS	TOT CLMS	IND CLMS
10/568,381	02/14/2006	1772	950	03071K		21	1

38263
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CONFIRMATION NO. 1036

FILING RECEIPT



OC00000020108203

Date Mailed: 08/22/2006

Receipt is acknowledged of this regular Patent Application. It will be considered in its order and you will be notified as to the results of the examination. Be sure to provide the U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER, FILING DATE, NAME OF APPLICANT, and TITLE OF INVENTION when inquiring about this application. Fees transmitted by check or draft are subject to collection. Please verify the accuracy of the data presented on this receipt. **If an error is noted on this Filing Receipt, please mail to the Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria Va 22313-1450. Please provide a copy of this Filing Receipt with the changes noted thereon. If you received a "Notice to File Missing Parts" for this application, please submit any corrections to this Filing Receipt with your reply to the Notice. When the USPTO processes the reply to the Notice, the USPTO will generate another Filing Receipt incorporating the requested corrections (if appropriate).**

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Domestic Priority data as claimed by applicant

This application is a 371 of PCT/EP04/09396 08/23/2004

Foreign Applications

GERMANY 10339802.3 08/27/2003

If Required, Foreign Filing License Granted: 08/18/2006

The country code and number of your priority application, to be used for filing abroad under the Paris Convention, is **US10/568,381**

Projected Publication Date: 11/30/2006

Non-Publication Request: No

Early Publication Request: No

Title

Intrinsically stable shirred stick

Preliminary Class

428

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For information on preventing theft of your intellectual property (patents, trademarks and copyrights), you may wish to consult the U.S. Government website, <http://www.stopfakes.gov>. Part of a Department of Commerce initiative, this website includes self-help "toolkits" giving innovators guidance on how to protect intellectual property in specific countries such as China, Korea and Mexico. For questions regarding patent enforcement issues, applicants may call the U.S. Government hotline at 1-866-999-HALT (1-866-999-4158).

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